

Financial State of Toledo

Toledo's financial condition worsened by \$271 million, resulting in a Taxpayer Burden™ of \$3,200, and earning it a "C" grade from Truth in Accounting.

According to the city's 2022 financial report, the city continued to spend federal COVID-19 relief funds, and as the U.S. economy reopened, the city took in additional tax revenue. Such economic gains were offset by increases in the city's pension liability. Over the past few years, investment market values have swung dramatically. In 2022, this volatility negatively impacted the city's pension investments and its financial condition, which demonstrates the risk to taxpayers when their city offers defined pension benefits to its employees.

Toledo had set aside only 69 cents for every dollar of promised pension benefits and only 76 cents for every dollar of promised retiree health care benefits.

It is important to note that continued market fluctuations, changing investment values, decreased COVID relief funds, and a stabilizing economy that may slow tax collections, could worsen Toledo's financial health further. City officials should try to reduce the Taxpayer Burden by following the recommendations in our 2024 Financial State of the Cities report which would bring greater transparency and accountability to city finances.

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Toledo's Financial Breakdown

Fast Facts

- Toledo had \$761.4 million available to pay \$1.1 billion worth of bills.
- The outcome was a \$288.9 million shortfall, an increase of \$271 million from the prior year, and a burden of \$3,200 per taxpayer.
- Toledo received COVID-19 relief funds and increased tax collections, but due in part to lower valuations on pension investments, its unfunded pension promises increased significantly.

| The City's Bills Exceeded Its Assets | |
|--------------------------------------|------------------|
| Total Assets | \$2,974,226,000 |
| Minus: Capital Assets | -\$1,986,326,000 |
| Restricted Assets | -\$226,466,000 |
| Assets Available to Pay Bills | \$761,434,000 |
| Minus: Total Bills* | \$1,050,349,000 |
| Money needed to pay bills | \$288,915,000 |
| Each taxpayer's share of this burden | \$3,200 |
| *Breakdown of Total Bills | |
| Bonds | # 400 ATT 000 |

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|---------------------------------------|-----------------|
| Bonds | \$493,255,000 |
| Other Liabilities | \$955,563,000 |
| Minus: Debt Related to Capital Assets | -\$954,027,000 |
| Unfunded Pension Benefits | \$524,825,000 |
| Unfunded Retiree Health Care Benefits | \$30,733,000 |
| Total Bills | \$1,050,349,000 |

Grade:

C

Bottom line: Toledo would need \$3,200 from each of its taxpayers to pay all of its outstanding bills and received a "C" grade for its finances. According to Truth in Accounting's grading scale, any government with a Taxpayer Burden between \$0 and \$4,999 is given a "C" grade.

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